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The Annual Subscription has been held at £12.50 per person for 2026, payable at the January meeting.

All visitors are extremely welcome to attend our evening meetings, for which we charge just £3 per visit.

Tea/coffee and biscuits are provided at no charge.

Kimpton History Group

2026 Programme

January 2026 to January 2027



Whitwell & Kimpton Fire Brigade, 1892

The Aims of the History Group

- ★ To provide a forum for discussion, research and sharing of information
- ★ To provide a means whereby interest and awareness can be raised in the richness and importance of our local heritage
- ★ To provide a central means of storing, preserving and caring for village historical and contemporary material which can be accessible to the public
- ★ To encourage the recording of visual and oral images and memories through photography and taped interviews
- ★ To take appropriate care of such material given to the Group whether within the village or with the County Records Office

PROGRAMME 2026

Evening meetings start at 8.00 pm in the Green Room of the Memorial Hall unless otherwise indicated

Wednesday 21st January 'Kimpton in the 21st Century'

Juliet will present 'visual memories' of Kimpton Village during the first 25 years of this century.

Wednesday 18th February 'From Source to Tap'

Following a short AGM, Warren Phillips will discuss the production and delivery of fresh water to the people of Kimpton and Hertfordshire.

Wednesday 18th March 'Kimpton AFS, 1939-1946'

John Pollington will talk about the Kimpton Auxiliary Fire Service, one of the many volunteer village fire brigades that assisted the National Fire Service during the 2nd World War.

Wednesday 15th April 'Sons of St Albans'

Terry Turner will talk about a variety of men whose lives have touched St Albans in some way, from Francis Bacon to Stephen Hawking, taking in Nicholas Breakspear, Samuel Ryder and Lord Grimsthorpe along the way.

Saturday May 2nd & 3rd May Festival Weekend

The History Group's exhibition in Church House for the May Festival.

Wednesday 17th June Rothamsted Manor

We will make a guided tour of 17th Century Rothamsted Manor, where, in 1843, Sir John Lawes established the Rothamsted Experimental Station. The details of the tour are yet to be confirmed but it will probably take place during the afternoon.

Wednesday 15th July Letchworth Garden City walking tour

Liz Eastwood will be our guide in Letchworth, introducing us to the history of the First Garden City, inspired by the visionary Ebenezer Howard.

Transport will be by members' cars and a contribution of £5 a head is requested. Meet at the school at 6pm to share lifts for a 7pm start. Contact Jane if you would like to come, need a lift or could share transport.

AUGUST – NO MEETING THIS MONTH

Wednesday 16th September 'In Search of the Truth'

'A Life in Journalism': BBC Producer, Brian King, reflects on a long career in newspapers and broadcasting and considers the uncertain future for journalism.

Wednesday 21st October 'The Foundling Hospital Story'

Juliet will tell the story of how Thomas Coram, Handel, Hogarth and Dickens are all involved in the founding and development of London's Foundling Hospital.

Wednesday 18th November 'Public service before 1950'

Committee members will give a fascinating account of people who served their communities at very different times, who were seconded into the navy in 1944, were nurses and a doctor all before the NHS.

Wednesday 16th December Christmas Party

An 8 pm start for a lively evening's entertainment! Members will be asked to bring a plate of finger food and a donation towards the drinks.

Wednesday 20th January 2027 To Be Confirmed